



News Release

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NASA CONTRACTOR AGREES TO REIMBURSE NASA

On June 6, 2000, The Boeing Corporation (Boeing) agreed to reimburse NASA for the original procurement cost of two missing International Space Station oxygen tanks from Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC), Huntsville, AL, and any additional costs associated with the purchase of replacement tanks. The tanks were originally purchased for \$528,544.36.

The investigation disclosed that Boeing representatives placed the tanks in waste containers and then placed those containers in a disposal location. The tanks were discarded about February 9, 2000. Boeing representatives were unsuccessful in their search for the tanks and reported them missing to NASA on February 18, 2000. Further investigation disclosed the tanks were accessible to several hundred people once the containers were moved to the disposal location.

This investigation was conducted by Special Agents of the NASA Office of Inspector General, Office of Criminal Investigations, with the assistance of the Johnson Space Center (JSC) Procurement Office, Houston, TX, and the JSC Pressurized Element Office, MSFC, Huntsville, AL.

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